

## In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicants: R. Marc Bustin and A Thomas. Rozak

Title: "Method for enhancing methane production from coal seams by inducing matrix shrinkage and placement of a propped fracture treatment"

### Small Entity Declaration – Independent Inventor

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41 (a) and (b) of Title 35 United States Code. To the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to my above identified invention in the specification filed herewith. I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed – and am under no obligation under any contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license – any rights in the invention to either (a) any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or (b) any concern which would not qualify as either (i) a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or (ii) a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed – or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license – any rights in the invention is listed below:

☒ There is no such person, concern or organization

☐ Any applicable person, concern or organization is listed below.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

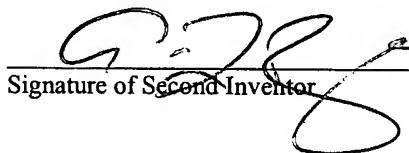
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge a duty to file, in the above application for patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.



Signature of First Inventor



Signature of Second Inventor

R. Marc Bustin

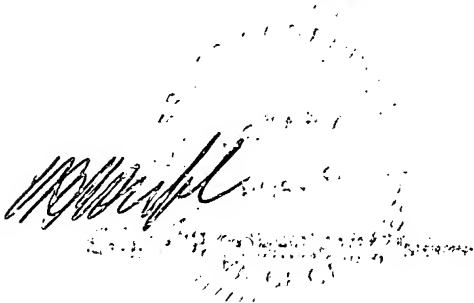
Print Name of First Inventor

Date of Signature: September 16, 2003

A. Thomas Rozak

Print Name of Second Inventor

Date of Signature: September 16, 2003



## Declaration for Utility or Design Patent Application

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name and that I believe that I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed for and for which a patent is sought on the invention, the specification of which is attached hereto and which has the following title:

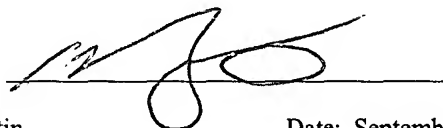
"Method for enhancing methane production from coal seams by inducing matrix shrinkage and placement of a propped fracture treatment"

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to in the oath or declaration. I acknowledge a duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 (a).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Please send correspondence and make telephone calls to the **Second** Inventor below:

Signature: First Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_



Print Name: R. Marc Bustin

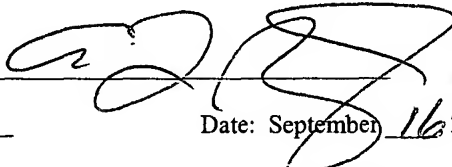
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